

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure comprising:

a first columnar coupler, for which a bolt is secured to a cylindrical joint end;

a second columnar coupler, for which a nut having a size that will fit over a male thread of the bolt is secured to a cylindrical joint end; and

a connection adaptor, shaped and sized so that both ends can engage said cylindrical portions of said columnar couplers, in which a bolt through hole is formed into which said bolt is inserted, and on which an annular projection having a greater diameter than the inner diameters of said columnar couplers is provided at an intermediate portion,

wherein the columnar couplers are interconnected with the connection adaptor positioned in between.

2. (Original) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure according to claim 1, wherein, for said columnar couplers, hollow cylindrical portions are formed at least in the vicinities of joint ends so as to be closely fitted over ends of said connection adaptor.

3. (Currently Amended) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein at least one of said cylindrical portions of said joint ends has a circular cross section.

4. (Currently Amended) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure according to one of ~~claims claim 1 to 3~~, wherein said ~~small inner~~ diameters at said ends of said connection adaptor are formed and sized so that said ends can be fitted inside said

ends of said columnar couplers; and wherein both of said ends are chamfered so that an assembly process can be easily performed.

5. (Currently Amended) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure according to one of ~~claims claim 1 to 4~~, wherein said first columnar coupler wherein said bolt is secured and said second columnar coupler in which said nut is secured are fitted inside ends of hollow columnar members having appropriate lengths and shapes; and wherein said columnar couplers are connected by using said connection adaptor, so that coupling for an arbitrary number of said hollow columnar members is enabled.

6. (Currently Amended) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure according to one of ~~claims claim 1 to 5~~, wherein a material used for said connection adaptor is aluminum, reinforced plastic or foundry die casting.

7. (Currently Amended) An easily connected and separated columnar coupler structure according to one of ~~claims claim 5 1 to 6~~, wherein said hollow columnar members are legs for a table or other furniture, a flagstaff, a sign pole, a tent pole, or a measurement pole or another strut.